

We claim:

1. A system for use on a patient, wherein said system requires an operator for deployment on the patient, and the system may be operated by various classes of operators assigned varying levels 5 of access, said system comprising:

a chest compression device;

defibrillation electrodes for supplying a defibrillating shock to the patient;

identification means for determining the level of access of 10 an operator of the system; and

a computer operably connected to the identification means, said computer programmed to permit the compression device to be placed on the patient and permit operation of the compression device when the compression device is placed 15 on the patient regardless of the operator's permitted level of access;

wherein the computer is further programmed to prohibit delivery of a shock through the defibrillation electrodes for operators having a first permitted level of access 20 and to allow delivery of a shock through the defibrillation electrodes for operators having a second permitted level of access.

2. A medical treatment system for treatment of a patient, wherein said medical treatment system is intended to be used in 25 an environment wherein the device may be removed from a secure storage device and deployed upon the patient by a first operator pending arrival of a second operator, said medical treatment system comprising:

a plurality of medical devices;

means for controlling physical access to the plurality of medical devices;

means for controlling functional enablement of a medical device included within the plurality of medical devices;

5 means for determining the level of access of the first operator and permitting physical access to a medical device by the first operator while prohibiting functional enablement of the medical device to the first operator;

means for determining the level of access of the second operator and permitting functional enablement of a medical device included within the plurality of medical devices upon determining the level of access of the second operator;

10 means for controlling physical access is operable to permit physical access to a medical device included within the plurality of medical devices depending upon the level of access of the first operator; and

15 the means for controlling functional enablement is operable to permit functional enablement of a medical device included within the plurality of medical devices depending upon the level of access of the second operator.

20 3. The system of claim 2, wherein the means for controlling physical access to a medical device comprises a computer programmed to operate electro-mechanical locks securing the medical devices to hold or release the medical devices in

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response to level of access information inputted by the first or second operator.

4. The system of claim 2, wherein the means for controlling functional enablement to a medical device comprises a computer 5 programmed to permit operation of the plurality of medical devices in response to level of access information inputted by the first or second operator.

5. The system of claim 2 wherein the means for determining the level of access of the first operator comprises a communication 10 system in communication with a remote medical facility, and means for receiving a signal from the remote medical facility which causes the means for controlling physical access to hold or release the medical devices in response the signal from the remote medical facility.

15 6. The system of claim 2 wherein the means for determining the level of access of the second operator comprises an access card provided to the second operator, level of access information stored on the access card, and a card reader coupled to the system, wherein said card reader is capable of reading the 20 access card and transmitting level of access information to the means for controlling functional enablement.

7. The system of claim 2 wherein at least one of the medical devices amongst the plurality of medical devices is capable of both diagnosis and treatment of a condition of the patient, and 25 the controller permits the first operator to operate the at least one medical device in a diagnostic mode while prohibiting the first operator from operating the at least one medical device in a treatment mode.

8. The system of claim 2 wherein the at least one medical device is an automatic external defibrillator, and the controller permits access to the automatic external defibrillator to the first operator, thereby allowing the first 5 operator to install the automatic external defibrillator on the patient, but the system prohibits the first operator from operating the automatic external defibrillator to apply defibrillating shock to the patient, and the system permits the second operator to operate the automatic external defibrillator 10 to apply defibrillating shock to the patient.

9. A medical treatment system for treatment of a patient, wherein said medical treatment system is intended to be used in an environment wherein the device may be removed from a secure storage device and deployed upon the patient by any one of a 15 number of potential operators, said medical treatment system comprising;

an automatic external defibrillator;

means for controlling physical access to the automatic external defibrillator;

20 means for controlling functional enablement of the automatic external defibrillator;

means for determining the level of access of a particular operator attempting to use the medical treatment system and permitting physical access to the automatic external 25 defibrillator based on the level of access of the particular operator;

wherein the means for controlling physical access is operable to permit physical access to the automatic

external defibrillator depending upon the level of access
of the particular operator; and

the means for controlling functional enablement is operable
to permit or prohibit functional enablement of the
5 automatic external defibrillator depending upon the level
of access of the particular operator.